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**TESTIMONY OF
ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
BEFORE THE ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

I appreciate the opportunity to support House Bill 6302, An Act Concerning Revisions to the Utility Statutes.

Importantly, this legislation increases the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) oversight over electricity brokers by requiring such persons to register with the DPUC in the same manner as an electric aggregator. This registration requires disclosure of background information about the broker and its affiliates.

Consumers expect that any person working in a regulated industry such as electricity is licensed by the state. This legislation will protect consumers from fly-by-night operators selling cheap electricity service.

I urge the committee's favorable consideration of House Bill 6302.